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# College of Education News

April 11, 2012

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## Graduate Students Win at Research Symposium

April 11, 2012

Two COE graduate students won awards for their research presentations at the annual Graduate Research Symposium sponsored by the College of Graduate Studies. The event was held March 29. COE winners were Dana McCullough, 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Curriculum, Foundations & Reading for, "Wear Red on October 4<sup>th</sup> to Honor Henrietta Lacks" and Jing Sun, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Curriculum, Foundations & Reading, for "Media Curriculum of Resistance: Youth in China." Additionally, Rachel Bonilla, a research assistant for Dr. Robert Mayes, professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning, won 1st place for "Quantitative Reasoning Accounts in Pathways of Environmental Literacy."

The symposium gives graduate students an opportunity to showcase the broad range of research taking place at Georgia Southern. The symposium includes poster and presentation sessions by students from all academic disciplines.

"I'm very excited that our graduate students did so well at the Graduate Research Symposium," said Dr. Tom Koballa, COE Dean. "It reflects very well on the academic rigor of our programs and indicates the quality of our graduate students," Koballa continued. "Students and faculty should be very proud," he said.

Dana McCullough, a first year doctoral student in Curriculum Studies, said the symposium gave her an opportunity to show how science affects real-life situations. "It's not just a set of steps," McCullough said. "Science affects us as real people."

Jing Sun, from Wuhan, China, is a third-year Curriculum Studies major. She said her research is a "journey toward critical multicultural consciousness."

"I think students are at their best when they are sharing their work with others," McCullough continued.

Winners receive a cash award.